

Ch. 15 Smartboard lessons.notebook

Day 4

Absolutism

Entrance task: Think: What gives a person power over you?

What type of power would absolute rulers have over their people?

Today: Absolutism in France

Homework: Finish Ch. 15-2

The Absolute State

- monarchs ruled by divine right
- sovereignty = the ruler
- regulated religious sects
- abolished some liberties
- allied with nobility

The Absolute State

- solution to economic problems was the key to the monarch's power and success
- bureaucrats served the king, not themselves
- permanent standing army
- secret police

Henry IV r. 1589-1610



Henry IV



Duke of Sully

- first to establish the **Bourban** family
- began to curtail privileges of the French nobility (**the paulette**)
- Protestant but converted to Catholicism in 1593 because, "Paris is worth the Mass."
- issued the **Edict of Nantes**
- the **Duke of Sully** – finance minister – revived royal authority
- collected taxes to pay for a standing army, consolidated justice, repaired roads, encouraged new business ventures, kept the peace
- Assassinated in 1610 & succeeded by his 9-year-old son (Louis XIII)

Louis XIII r. 1610 – 1643



- King at age 9
- French nobles and the Huguenots tried to press for their own interests at the expense of royal authority
- **Marie de Medici**, the queen mother, engaged the assistance of **Cardinal Richelieu** to serve as Louis' chief minister in 1628

Cardinal Richelieu



- Richelieu reduced power and influence of nobility
- destroyed fortified castles
- established 32 districts run by **intendants** to enforce royal orders and weaken the nobility in the district
- deprived Huguenots of fortified cities



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Cardinal Richelieu

- led France into the **Thirty Years' War** in support of **Protestant cause** in order to defeat its Catholic Habsburg rivals who ruled Austria and Spain
- only one law – the king's



Louis XIII



Richelieu

Louis XIII

Mazarin



- By 1648, France was the most powerful country on the continent
- **Cardinal Mazarin** succeeded Richelieu and continued the same policies
- the **Fronde** – 1648-1653 protests – began in provinces as civil wars against taxation and growing royal power, frightening young Louis XIV (Louis XIII died in 1643)



Louis XIV

Became king at age 4 after the death of his father, Louis XIII in 1643

Louis' mother, **Anne of Austria** served as the regent, but Cardinal **Mazarin** was the real ruler of France until his death in 1661

